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Gator Gazette

917th WING, AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND

BARKSDALE AFB, LA



Aircrew inspects munitions prior to a flight over Iraq



U.S. AIR FORCE

Gator Gazette

917th Wing Public Affairs
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Front Cover:

Lt. Col. William "Sleepy", 93rd Bomb Squadron flight commander, and Maj. Denis, 93 BS B-52 radar navigator, inspect munitions prior to boarding a B-52 in an operating area. This mission was the first "real world" mission where a LITENING 2 Pod was used for laser-guided bomb delivery. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Stacia M. Willis)

From the Top

The WAR is on – at home and abroad. In Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, our 917th warriors have been involved from day one and are doing a great job. I think the Iraqis figured out ahead of time we were coming. I understand they closed their K-Marts and Wal-Marts and replaced them with Targets. As for their Air Force, I guess they chose not to play.

On the home front, the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General will invade Louisiana this month. Let's come with our game faces and uniforms on. And let us be ready to demonstrate to them the superior programs we have in place and the outstanding individuals we have managing those programs. You all are the BEST, and we need to make sure the IG knows it.

Next month is our annual Family Day, and I would like to encourage everyone to bring your family out on Sat., June 7. It is a great opportunity to show them where you work, what you do, and how that contributes to the overall mission of the Wing. And even more important – come out and have fun! A special invitation goes out to our deployed family members. Please put that date on your calendars.

Some other dates for your calendars: The Barksdale AFB Open House and Air Show are May 10-11, and I know your mother would appreciate a visit to the base on her day, May 11. In addition, we will celebrate Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day this month. This year will be especially meaningful



Brig. Gen. Jack Ihle
917th Wing Commander

as we have many Wing members deployed in support of the war on terrorism. Let's keep them and their families in our prayers and pay tribute to the Americans who gave their lives in past conflicts so that we may continue to enjoy our many freedoms.



Mother's Day
May 11

Barksdale AFB Open House and Air Show

May 10-11

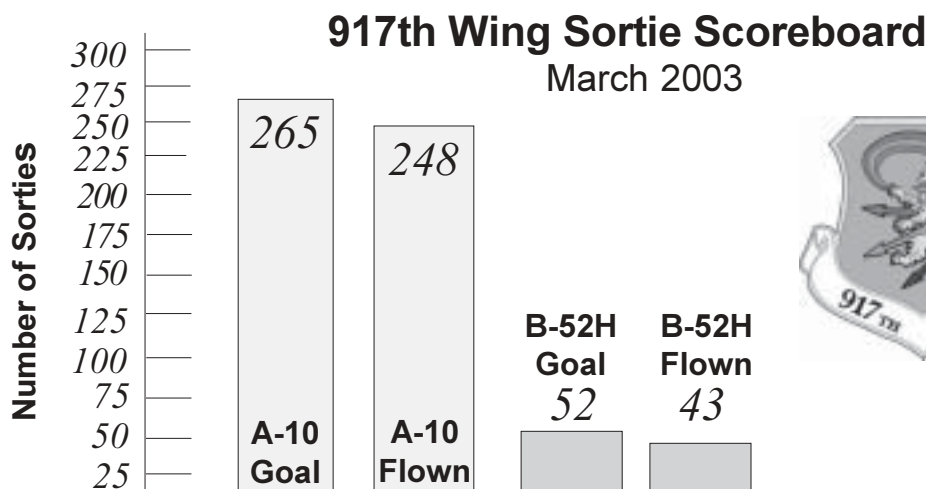


Armed Forces Day

May 17

Memorial Day

May 26



A-10 Mission Capable Rate 79.1%
B-52H Mission Capable Rate 71.6%

AFRC Goal 75%
AFRC Goal 65%



*Show the IG
why we are the
best wing in
AFRC. In the
final analysis,
think smart...*

Be the best!

“There are only three principles of warfare: audacity, more audacity, always audacity!”

-Gen. George S. Patton

By Lt. Col. Charlie Morgan Wing Performance Planner

If you listen, you can hear those words coming from the passionate gruff voice of Col. Richard Schmidt as he does his famous impression of Gen. Patton. This quote captures my attention when I think of the audacious men and women of the 917th Wing.

From putting a LITENING 2 Pod on a B-52 just deployed in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM to assisting spouses left behind through family support programs, the willingness of Wing members to go the extra mile is unmistakable.

Capturing Baghdad in three weeks with our 917th Wing B-52s flying overhead will go down in history as the B-52 has in wars past! The 93rd Bomb Squadron airmen are doing their duty. Now it's time to do ours.

The beginning of any inspection starts with first impressions. Military courtesy, attitude, and enthusiasm are things you see a block away. Great haircuts, laundered and pressed uniforms, and shined boots come into focus within 15 feet. From having every seat belt buckled, no matter

where you are, to Foreign Object Debris checks accomplished on the flight line, we will show the Inspector General why we're the best Wing in the Air Force.

A Unit Compliance Inspection is an open-book test. As a professional, when an inspector asks you a question, take a breath, then take the time to get the correct answer. If you know the answer, show them. If you're asked a question you don't know the answer to, ask your supervisor. Show the IG that you know how to find the answer. In the final analysis, think smart – be audacious.

We started preparing for our UCI a year ago, so let's energetically finish the job. We have the best people, leadership and Wing. Let's show the IG!

Now, we began the series of UCI articles talking about duty. The IG is here to inspect us doing our duty. We are here performing our duties as well as our deployed members in forward operating locations. Our bombers have an outstanding record of putting their weapons on target. Let us hit our target and have an outstanding showing during the UCI. It's our duty.

101 Critical Days of Summer:

A time to exercise caution

By Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III
Air Force Reserve Command

Since the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, we are much more aware of the need for diligent force protection. We also need to apply that same kind of vigilance off duty in the coming months, as we attempt to pack as much fun as possible into an all-too-brief summer.

Memorial Day Weekend signals the start of the Critical 101 Days of Summer, a time when off-duty mishaps are more likely to happen. Long workdays, coupled with alcohol consumption and horseplay, can spell disaster for even the most seasoned citizen airman.

Here's a list of tried-and-true suggestions from the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Directorate of Safety on how to survive and remain uninjured during the 101 Critical Days:

►Alcohol consumption: Don't drink and operate vehicles, such as automobiles, boats, jet skis, etc. If you drink, do it moderately and always appoint a designated driver;

►Traveling: Be sober, vigilant and well-rested;

►Boating: Know your craft and the waters you are operating within, and use personal floatation devices;

►Swimming: Swim with a buddy in known waters and don't drink;

►Jet skiing: Operate with caution, staying away from boaters, fishermen, swimmers and other jet skiers;

►Seatbelts: Use them and ensure passengers do the same. Remember, "it's the law;"

►Outdoor activities: Stretch muscles before athletic activity, don't overdo it, avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, use sunscreen and drink plenty of water; and

►Risk management: Use common sense, plan ahead and be prepared.

Enjoy your summer with family and friends, but be safe. Each member of our force is an irreplaceable resource in the continuing war on terrorism. Our nation and our families need us, and I need you to help meet the challenges of our nation and our great Air Force!

A big “Thank You” to the Shreveport-Bossier Military Affairs Council from the 917th Wing!

“The Eagles” provide refreshments to Wing newcomers each Saturday morning of the Unit Training Assembly. Many thanks from us to you!

Changes in TRICARE help reservists, families



WASHINGTON - Families of reservists mobilized for more than 30 consecutive days may now opt for the military's best form of healthcare insurance. In a pending change, families who live with their military sponsors at the time of their mobilization will be eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote when the mobilized reservists deploy away from their base.

"It's important we take care of the families of our reserve component members," said Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs. "We want to ensure that our mobilized reserve members aren't worried about who's caring for their families while they're gone. And we want to return them to families whose health care needs have been met by the military health system."

Previously, reservists had to be placed on military orders for 179 days or more for their families to get TRICARE Prime, the most advanced form and lowest cost healthcare insurance. TRICARE Prime's benefits include preventive health care, no deductibles, no enrollment fees and no cost-shares. Families of reservists activated for less than 179 days were automatically

covered under TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra without having to send enrollment forms to TRICARE.

Families lose their eligibility for TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Prime Remote for Active-Duty Family Members coverage when reservists deploy away from their base. So, officials in the TRICARE Management Activity are working to implement the change.

In the future, families will still have to "reside with" the reservists at the time of mobilization to qualify for TRICARE Prime Remote for Active-Duty Family Member coverage. This coverage allows families to obtain medical care 50 miles or more from a military medical treatment facility.

Hall and Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, announced the policy changes on March 12. The change in qualifying days for TRICARE Prime took effect March 10. As of March 24, TRICARE Management Activity officials said the effective date of the TRICARE Prime Remote policy change was yet to be determined but said the change would not be retroactive. Congress recognized the concerns of reservists and their families and mandated changes in the fiscal year '03 National Defense Authorization Act.

"These are significant changes that open the door to numerous health services at the lowest possible cost that were previously unavailable to reserve families in remote areas," said Lt. Col. Alexander Alex, associate administrator for the command surgeon at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

To qualify for TRICARE benefits, Guard and Reserve sponsors need to verify the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System information for themselves and their family members is accurate and up-to-date. They are encouraged to contact DEERS at the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office toll free at (800) 538-9552. Sponsors and family members may also update their addresses in DEERS on the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil> under "DEERS."

A list of frequently asked questions about benefits for reservists and their families can be found on the TRICARE Web site under "reserve"; fact sheets are available under "factsheets." (AFRC News Service)

Hugs and Kisses: War through the eyes of a child

**By Chaplain (Capt.) Ralph DeVaul
Wing Chaplains Office**

A telephone call from my four-year-old granddaughter on the Friday before the March Unit Training Assembly brought home an important message about the need to be sensitive to the communication needs of family and friends.

Alissa was upset that "Grandpa" did not give her "hugs and kisses" before he left for the UTA. Since she was 1 month old, hardly a day has gone by where I haven't seen or talked to Alissa. I was stunned by the boldness of her request. Alissa's story is one that we should all pay attention to.

On September 11, 2001, I was on vacation, quietly sitting in my bedroom watching my favorite morning program, "Fox and

Friends." I had gone downstairs for only a moment to get a cup of coffee. When I returned, there was a news flash that a plane had just hit one of the twin towers.

While sipping my coffee and paying close attention to the news reports, I watched in disbelief as another plane hit the second tower. At that point, I knew it was terrorism. Later that vacation week, Alissa, who was two years old at the time, came into my room, sat down by the bed, and began to watch the news with me.

At two years of age, she asked me a most profound question. She asked, "Are those bad people?" I answered, "Yes." She quickly responded by saying, "Why do bad people want to hurt good people?" The depth and simplicity of her question stunned me. As a chaplain, I understood the theol-

ogy, but struggled to frame it for a 2-year-old. I fumbled for the right words and said, "Bad people hate good people."

Since Sept. 11, Alissa has watched me deploy twice, to Moron Air Base, Spain, and then to Ahmed Al Jaber AB, Kuwait. Never a day went by when my wife, by phone or e-mail, didn't mention comments from Alissa as to my whereabouts. You see, she missed those afternoons sitting at the foot of my bed watching the news with me.

My failure to call or to visit a few moments with Alissa before the UTA brings home an important message . . . "Hugs and Kisses."

As we continue to mobilize and deploy, we must never lose sight of the need to regularly communicate with our families and loved ones, even the children.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. STEVE SHOCKLEY
Local villagers assist Joint Task Force- Full Accounting members with recovery efforts by forming a bucket line to bring dirt to the screening stations. The dirt is then sifted through by search teams who hope to find remains of those service members declared missing in action from past conflicts.

Teams continue search for those MIA

By Staff Sgt. Sherri Savant
Wing Public Affairs

The search continues...nearly 30 years after the Vietnam Conflict, that claimed over 50,000 American lives and left many Americans in search of loved ones who have yet to return home.

Tech. Sgt. Steve Shockley, 47th Fighter Squadron aircrew life support attendant, recently took his first trip over to Southeast Asia as a part of a 12-man Joint Task Force-Full Accounting team. His role in the mission...to sift through debris from a

helicopter crash, in hopes of finding remains of those who are listed as missing in action.

"Providing closure to families of those missing is our main objective," said Shockley. "There are a lot of people out there who still don't know what happened to their son or brother or husband."

Established in 1992, the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, based at Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, grew out of the previously established Joint Casualty Resolution Center, an organization that began spearheading U.S. Government accounting efforts as early as 1973. Since that time, the JTF-FA has conducted over 3,500 case investigations and recovered

remains of nearly 600 Americans determined to be missing in action.

Shockley began his search at the JTF-FA headquarters in Hawaii. While there, he gathered information on the Air Force HH-3 helicopter, known as "The Jolly Green," an aircraft he would later search for at a crash site in the hills of Vietnam.

"Prior to entering the area, you know where the site is located,

what is around the site, and how many aircraft have crashed there that may be equivalent to the one(s) you are looking for," Shockley said. "This information helps you to find the missing pieces."

The mission proved to be a success, as Shockley's team along with two other teams found teeth belonging to three different service members who were missing in action. "We were able to bring three people back to their families. That makes it all worthwhile, because these families are now able to see their loved one return home."

And so the search continues, as 47 FS life support team members return to Southeast Asia this summer...in hopes of finding those who remain missing in action.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tech. Sgt. Steve Shockley, 47th Fighter Squadron life support technician, analyzes and catalogs life support items recovered at the site.

“

We were able to bring three people back to their families. That makes it all worthwhile.

”

Tech. Sgt. Steve Shockley

Reserve, active duty blend seamlessly

By Staff Sgt. Kristina Barrett
457th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Active duty and reserve airmen work side by side and face the same challenges of wartime at this forward operating location. Air Reserve Technicians from the 917th Wing work in tandem with their active-duty counterparts as members of the 5th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight.

While observing the munitions flight in all areas of operation, it is impossible to tell who is active and who is reserve, except for the patches they wear on their uniforms.

Back home, ARTs do the same jobs as regular bluesuiters. However, they serve as civilian employees except during their drill periods – one weekend per month and two weeks per year.

“My job in peacetime is the same as my job upon activation – to train and prepare traditional reserve members to perform their wartime duties,” said Master Sgt. Joel, senior munitions controller. “During the rest of the time, we’re supporting the Wing’s munitions flight providing weapons for training.”

The 917th Wing is a composite Wing, equipped with A-10 Thunderbolts and B-52s.

“Our mission at Barksdale provides our people the unique opportunity to train on both fighter and bomber assets at the same time,” Joel said. “Most people spend their reserve career on one or the other but rarely both. It’s the perfect training environment for our traditional reserve members.”

This training is valuable to the total-force concept, which blends active duty, guard and reserve members into one team.

As a deployed member here, ARTs bring their experience and knowledge to the fight, according to Joel.

The only difference, according to Senior Master Sgt. Clinton, night-shift supervisor, is the job satisfaction that comes with being deployed.

“Our mission here, in ways, is much more rewarding than the day-to-day,” he said. “The pace is quicker and ever flowing, so it keeps you on your toes.”

Joel agrees. “The stress level is more intense, and the hours are longer, but there’s a great feeling of accomplishment. Being a part of any contingency is the only way we realize the true magnitude of our training.”

“Everyone here is working toward a common cause,” Clinton added.

That cause is the munitions effort. The reservists are involved in every aspect of the effort – from receiving and coordinating to controlling and building bombs.

Tech. Sgt. Todd, who normally works storage and handling back home, is using his experience as a reservist on the pad to build munitions, the most hands-on job in Ammo.

“Being here and building the bombs is as close as you can get to the mission,” he said. “This is what we train for.”



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KRISTINA BARRETT

Tech. Sgt. Todd, 917th Maintenance Squadron munitions systems mechanic, prepares a 2,000 pound MK-84 bomb for transition to a GBU-31 Joint Direct Attack Munition.

Todd is on his second deployment in six months. The Air Force activated airmen from the Wing in September 2002 for a 90-day rotation to support Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

In addition, more than 176,000 members of the reserve component have been mobilized to support the war on terrorism at home and abroad, according to the Department of Defense.

Although deployment rotations for the Reserve have been heavy, the value of ARTs is evident, according to one active-duty senior noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

“The blending of active duty and reserve airmen has been seamless,” said Chief Master Sgt. Ricky, munitions flight chief. “They are using their skills and raising the experience level of the flight, which makes us, as a whole, that much better.”

Paving the road to destruction

RED HORSE personnel deploy to desert in support of war

**By Staff Sgt. Sherri Savant
Wing Public Affairs**

Dust flies and the earth moves as members of the 307th RED HORSE Squadron bulldoze their way through sandy deserts, building roads for bombs...Destination: Baghdad.

The 307 RHS deployed personnel to the desert in February to join five other RED HORSE squadrons in completing various construction projects in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

"One of our first missions was to construct a munitions road prior to the start of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM," said Senior Master Sgt. Bennie, 307 RHS heavy equipment operator, who is the deployed first sergeant and project noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

The road cut the delivery time for munitions in half and provided a safer route for bomb trailers, according to Bennie. "This was accomplished right on schedule and with great success. The project received recognition for its contribution to the war effort."

Bennie said they are still involved in ongoing projects, but those projects are classified at this time.

According to Bennie, who has been to the desert on three other occasions, it doesn't get any easier. "The climate and environment here are unforgiving most of the time," he said. "I celebrated my birthday en route to the desert. And being away from my daughter is really tough. But she knows I have a job to do."

For Tech. Sgt. Helen, 307 RHS heavy equipment operator, the trip is her first. "This is my first deployment," she said. "My anniversary is coming up, and I am not sure I'll be home for it.



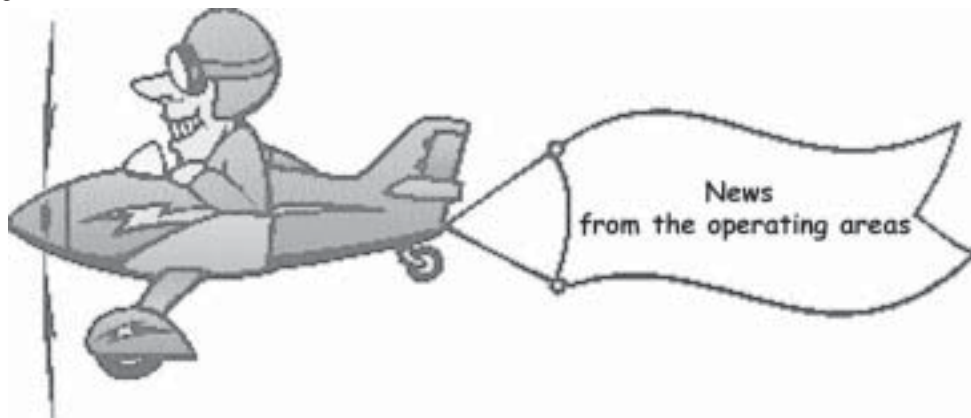
PHOTO BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. BENNIE

Tech. Sgt. Helen, 307th RED HORSE Squadron heavy equipment operator, takes a moment to smile for the camera, while operating a motor grader in the desert.

But my husband is retired Air Force, so he is highly supportive of me and knows that I must do what it takes for the military."

"We are extremely proud of our deployed troops and seriously envious, as the remainder of us would like an opportunity to assist in the on-going war efforts," said Lt. Col. Steve McCutcheon, 307 RHS senior Air Reserve Technician and director of operations. "Capt. Mike and Senior Master Sgt. Bennie have provided excellent leadership throughout the deployment."

"I am very proud to be here," Bennie said. "I ask for understanding and support as we are doing what we believe is right...defending our country and working to end the threat of terrorism."



Develop leadership skills through LDP

For staff or technical sergeants who have not completed Leadership Development Program courses, the opportunity has come! Dates for upcoming classes are as follows: July 23-27 (Phase I) and July 30-Aug. 3 (Phase II). Those interested should contact their training manager. Contact Master Sgt. Pat Roberson, Wing Education and Training, at 456-8066 for more information.

Sci-Port offers free admission

All activated reservists and their families are invited to enjoy free admission to Sci-Port Discovery Center's discovery areas on Sat., May 17, and Sun., May 18. Tickets to Sci-Port's IMAX Dome Theatre will be offered at a reduced rate of \$5 for military visitors.

Sci-Port, located on the downtown Shreveport-Bossier Riverfront, is also offering a \$5 military discount off a \$60 Discovery Annual Pass now through May 31. The pass is good for free admission for up to five people for one year from the date of purchase. Call 424-3466, or visit Sci-Port's Web site: <http://www.sciport.org> for more information.

Insurance premiums to drop 19 percent

Beginning July 1, the Department of Veterans Affairs will reduce Servicemembers Group Life Insurance premiums. The new monthly rate will be 6.5 cents for every \$1,000 of coverage, about 19 percent less than the current 8 cents. Monthly premiums for the maximum coverage of \$250,000 will fall to \$16.25 from the current \$20. For more information, call 1-800-419-1473, or visit the VA Insurance Web site: <http://www.insurance.va.gov/>.

Learn to swim, enjoy the water

Outdoor Recreation is currently registering children for the Red Cross Learn to Swim program. You can register your child for the first two sessions at the Equipment Rental Center, Bldg. 1264, located on Twining Drive. Registration times are Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Registration for sessions three and four begin on May 24 at the pool located next to the Barksdale Enlisted Club. Eligible children must be at least 6 months of age with a military identification card holding sponsor. Swimming lesson fees are \$30 per child/\$25 each additional child in the same family. For more information, call Melanie Perkins, 2nd Services Squadron, at 456-3426.

Spend your hot summer in the cool waters of the base pools, located next to the Barksdale Enlisted and Officers clubs. Season passes are on sale now. Costs of season passes are: \$70 per family, \$15 per individual per month and \$35 per individual per season. You can purchase passes through May 24 at the Equipment Rental Center on Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wing historian needs your help

If you have a good personality, like to meet people, and always present yourself in a professional manner, you may be just who the Wing historian is looking for.

The Wing historian needs an assistant with exceptional military experience, at least a secret clearance and a minimum of a five-skill level in an administrative Air Force Specialty Code (3A0XX). If interested, contact Tech. Sgt. William Chavez, Wing historian, at 456-8302, or the Public Affairs Office at 456-9181.

President authorizes two medals

Two new military medals for service in the global war on terrorism have been authorized by the Department of Defense by a recent executive order.

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal will recognize service members who participate in an expedition to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. It is limited to those who deploy as part of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal will recognize service members who participate in military operations to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. It is limited to Operation NOBLE EAGLE and service members who provide support to Operation ENDURING FREEDOM from outside the area of eligibility designated for the expeditionary medal.

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces and Coast Guard are eligible for the medals, including reserve and national guard members activated to support approved operations.

Patches need not be changed

Reservists affected by the Wing reorganization in December need not change the location of any of their squadron patches on their uniform. An earlier announcement, effective last Nov. 1, stating changes in the location of uniform patches, no longer applies.

Tax increase means pay decrease

A Louisiana tax increase in January has recently caught up to the military pay system, making your check seem a bit smaller. To download a copy of the 2003 Louisiana tax chart, go to the Louisiana Department of Revenue Web site: www.rev.state.la.us.

In memoriam...

The 917th Wing mourns the loss of retired Master Sgt. Alvie Barrett, who passed away on March 31. Barrett, a welder with the 917th Maintenance Squadron, retired from the military in October 2001 after spending 15 years at the 917th Metals Technology Shop.

Before joining the unit, Barrett served four years active duty. He was also a welding instructor for Louisiana VO-TECH.

"Those who knew Alvie knew him as a thinking man," said Tech. Sgt. Ruben Delgado, 917th Wing Public Affairs staff writer, and former structural repair specialist. "Along with his words of wisdom, he would intertwine stories about his grandchildren, who were the pride of his life."

"Alvie always did his very best in his work, to the point of perfection," said Tech Sgt. Terry Allen, 917th Maintenance Squadron aircraft metals processor.

"Alvie used his welding expertise to quickly certify all the machinists, including traditional reservists, during our rivet work force conversion," said Master Sgt. Gary Phillips, 917 MXS aircraft metals processor.



Wing racquetball team dominates base tourney

By Senior Airman Ebony Nichols
Wing Public Affairs

George Pierce, 917th Maintenance Group, crushed the winning serve down the court, leading his team to victory in the base racquetball tournament recently held at the base gym.

With two points under their belt, the only challenge left for Pierce and doubles partner Stu Martin, 917 MXG, was to win the doubles match. The match started strong for the team, after winning the first game with no major difficulties.

"The momentum was with us," stated Pierce, "although the 8th Air Force team began hitting some really tough shots during the second game."

The 8 AF team won the second game, sending the match to a tie-breaker. "We thought about changing our game plan in the tiebreaker, but decided to play the way we practiced," said Martin. "The old adage paid off for us during the last game."

The team needed four points to win the event. Two teams would play against each other in two singles matches and a doubles match, with the singles match counting for one point and the doubles match counting for two.

Mike Rowlands, 917th Logistics Readiness Squadron, decisively won his singles match in two games, earning the team one point toward the championship.

The second match proved to be a pivotal one for Jonathan Gunn, 917th Maintenance Squadron. "Gunn's 8th Air Force opponent started out strong in the match," Martin said. "He (8 AF opponent) won the first game, and it appeared he was going to win the second. But Gunn rebounded and won the second game, pushing the match into a tie-breaker."

"I took control with my serve during the second game," said Gunn. "The score was 10 to 6. I knew I had to put him away, and I did so with a 15-12 win. This boosted my confidence." Gunn won the third game 11-7 and one point toward the championship.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SHERRI SAVANT

Stu Martin, 917th Maintenance Group, takes a swing during racquetball practice at the base gym.

The team anticipates another strong year with the participation of team members George Pierce, Stu Martin, Mike Kimbrel, Jonathan Gunn and Mike Rowlands.

917th Wing Salutes

NEWCOMERS

47 FS

Capt. John Anderson, Enid, Okla.

93 BS

Maj. Ronald Polomoscanik, Lawrenceburg, Ind.

917 CF

Staff Sgt. Russel Ledbetter, West Monroe, La.

917 AMXS

Senior Airman Robert Butler, Mesquite, Texas

917 MDS

Staff Sgt. Dina Cooper, Leesville, La.

2nd Lt. Santiago Grijalva, Shreveport, La.

Senior Airman Thomas Weindruch, Shannon Hills, Ark.

917 MXS

Master Sgt. Pamela Anderson, Bossier City, La.

Airman 1st Class Jeffery Headrick, Lufkin, Texas

917 SFS

Senior Airman Malbon Heath Jr., Shreveport, La.

Senior Airman Michael Ross, N. Little Rock, Ark.

Tech. Sgt. Tony Turner, Shreveport, La.

PROMOTIONS

To Major:

Raymond Crews, 93 BS

Heath Fowler, 917 AMXS

Patrick Krake, 93 BS

Marc Kurup, 93 BS

To Senior Master Sergeant:

Victoria Hopson, 47 FS

To Master Sergeant:

Robert Chambers, 917 AMXS

To Technical Sergeant:

Tobin Young, 917 MXS

Bruce Gay, 917 AMXS

CCAF graduates

Metals Technology

Tech. Sgt. Vincent Macafore

Fire Science

Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Mobley Jr.

Information Management

Master Sgt. Celeste Morris

Construction Technology

Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sessions

Aircraft Armament Systems

Technology

Master Sgt. Gregory Steele

Security...a matter of life and death

By Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio
Wing Public Affairs

Security can mean life or death in many circumstances, especially when it comes to war. Special steps have to be taken to ensure the safety and privacy of service members and their families while the member is deployed.

When reading the newspaper or watching the local news, one may wonder why mobilized reservists are not using their last names. Go onto the Web, and see how easy it is to locate a friend. All you need is their name, and you can get their address along with directions to their home and in some cases, their phone number.

The family members left behind are already dealing with added responsibilities. They do not need or want to worry about receiving telephone calls from people who tell them how their spouse is responsible for killing innocent people, or that they are being watched.

No matter how united we stand, there are always going to be protestors and evil doers. According to recent statistics from the Washington Post polls, Americans are saying...80 percent of Americans support the war with Iraq, 17 percent oppose it, and 3

percent have no opinion. The opposition may be waiting for the one bit of secure information you accidentally release to start their campaign against the war effort.

Of course, last names are not the only information we want to keep secure about our deploying troops. We also want to keep their specific location under our hats. It is common knowledge that only certain runways can support a B-52, but specific operational details such as how many aircraft are in specific locations and the number of troops that are there supporting the operation, remains classified.

Units may, however, provide general deployment numbers, general descriptions of their unit's organic equipment, mission and capabilities. The public does need to see our efforts but not every detail involved in completing the mission.

The public in general understands, for the most part, about security. There are times when they or their family members are home alone. There is always worry involved when families are separated: Will my family be safe while I am away, will someone try to take advantage of them, or will someone break into my house?

These are things that a deployed reservist has to think about for months or maybe years. Do your part to help keep them and their family safe. Always think operational security.



Help fight terrorism here at home through the Air Force's "Eagle Eyes" anti-terrorism program. For more information, go to the "Eagle Eyes" Web site: <http://www.dtic.mil/afosi>.

Voices: What steps are you currently taking to ensure you and your family's safety against possible attack?



Master Sgt. Rob Ahbol
917th Mission Support Group

"I have installed a security system in my home, allowing me to keep track of who is entering and exiting my home."



Airman 1st Class Robby Allen
307th RED HORSE Squadron

"I keep a good line of communication with my wife at all times. We also keep in close contact with our neighbors."



Tech. Sgt. B.K. Nelson
917th Security Forces Squadron

"I make sure that my family and I have proper emergency supplies readily available for our use."



Master Sgt. Timothy Shows
917th Maintenance Squadron

"I keep up with the threat level daily, and I stay very aware of my surroundings."

917th Wing Training Schedule

May 17-18, 2003

Time	Event	Location
Saturday		
0630-0700	Sign-in	Assigned unit
0700	Wing staff meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0700	Intro -- all newcomers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0700	Physical exam (flyers)	Base hospital (lobby)
0730	Detailed physical exam (non-flyers)	Base hospital (lobby)
0730-1000	Body fat measurement	Flight medicine
0730-1400	Immunizations	Base hospital, 1st floor
0730-1430	Eyeglass inserts	Bldg. 4845 (by hospital)
0745	Firearms training	Firing range
0800	Routine physical exam	Base hospital, 2nd floor
0800 & 1300	Initial Warfare (appointment only)	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 329
0800 & 1300	Chem Warfare Refresher	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 329
0900	Anti-terrorism training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0900	FOD meeting	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243
0930 & 1030	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1000	Training Managers meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123B
1000	Unit deployment managers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1000	First sergeants' meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1300	Flightline drivers training	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243
1300	Unit Safety Rep Council meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1400	Unit Advisory Council	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1530	Wing commander's call	A-10 hangar
Sunday		
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned Unit
0730	Information Management Training	Bldg. 4238, STARBASE
0730	Human Relations	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0730-1430	Immunizations	Base hospital
0745	Firearms training	Firing range
0800-1000	Dental Class 3 profile reviews	Base dental clinic
0800-1300	Eyeglass inserts	Bldg. 4845 (by hospital)
0800	Initial Warfare (appointment only)	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 329
0800 & 1300	Chem Warfare Refresher	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 329
0800	Career advisor training	Bldg. 6815, T-Net
0830	Substance Abuse	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0900	Catholic Mass	Base Chapel 2
0945	EO First Duty Station Part 1	Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor
1000-1030	Protestant services	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1030	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1230	EOC testing	Bldg. 4314, 3rd floor
1300	EO First Duty Station Part 2	Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor
1300	Flightline drivers refresher	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243
1400	SORTS meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1550-1610 Sign-out 1550--MXS 1600--CES, MSS, WG 1610--MXG		

Know anyone who is looking for a recruiter?

Barksdale AFB, La.

Master Sgt. Joe Menna
Master Sgt. Don Copeland
Tech. Sgt. Gary Johnson
1-800-241-4071

Monroe, La.

318-323-1898

Texarkana, Texas

Tech. Sgt. Mathew Lucas, 903-223-7030

Shreveport, La.

Master Sgt. Ellen Shaheed
318-683-0331

Little Rock AFB, Ark.

Tech. Sgt. TeNeuss Land
501-987-7188

Mesquite/Tyler, Texas

Tech. Sgt. Clark Fitzpatrick
972-681-6384/903-534-8618

SERVICES

Military Personnel Flight

Bldg. 6803, Room 140, 456-9205

Saturday

7 - 11 a.m. Newcomers in-processing

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. All customer service functions

Sunday

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. All customer service functions

Monday - Friday

7 a.m. - 4 p.m. All services

NOTE: Customer Service functions include in/out processing, ID cards, DEERS, DD93s, SGLI, vehicle decals, record reviews, etc.

Base Billeting

Bldg. 5155, 456-3091/3092

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
(reservations required)

Lodging

For information on official or space "A" lodging call 1-888-AF-LODGE. Key in the first three letters of the base you are trying to reach.

Chaplain

Bldg. 6803, Room 229, 456-9179

Friday - Sunday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Willis (985) 517-0955

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Eubanks (479) 841-4641

Chaplain (Capt.) DeVaul (713) 502-1124

Red River Dining Hall

Bldg. 4631

Breakfast 5:30 - 6:30 a.m.

Lunch 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: You must show ID card, newcomer's letter or DD form 1172.

Family Readiness

Bldg. 4713

Saturday & Sunday 8-11 a.m.

Military drivers license

Military drivers license issue is available on the main UTA in Bldg. 6825, Rm. 240. Issue hours:

Saturday & Sunday, noon - 2 p.m.

Military Pay

Saturday and Sunday (main UTA) 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Gov. Travel Card Service

Bldg. 6803, Room 203, 456-9546

Monday - Friday, Main UTA 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Military clothing issue

Bldg. 6825, Room 218, 456-7177

Wednesday 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Saturday (Main UTA) 1-3 p.m.

Testing schedule

CDC/PME

Wed., 9 a.m., 1 p.m., Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123B

Sun., (Main UTA) 9 a.m. ONLY, Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123B - Course 00005A/00012G

Sun., (Main UTA) 12:30 p.m., Bldg. 4314, Rm. 309

Sun., (Alt. UTA) 1 p.m., Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123B

DANTES/CLEP

Thurs., 9 a.m., 1 p.m., Bldg. 6803, Rm. 152

Sun., (Main UTA) 12:30 p.m., Bldg. 4314, Rm. 309

AFOQT/AFCT

Sunday of UTA on a quarterly basis as scheduled

Call Wing Education and Training at 456-7496/8066/7506 for times or scheduling requirements.

Gas Mask Issue

Saturday (main UTA) 7-9 a.m., Bldg. 6822

Toliver presents flag

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SHERRI SAVANT

Evodna Springer and Jammy Eguia, United We Stand Rally organizers, accept an American flag presented by Tech Sgt. Wendel Toliver, 717th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft armament systems mechanic and Wing honor guard member. The flag presentation took place at the United We Stand Rally, held at the Bossier Civic Center on April 10. Chief Master Sgt. Jack Skaggs, 917th Wing command chief, is pictured at the podium.



917th Wing Family Day

Saturday, June 7
Location: Cullen Park
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Games and Activities

Bingo
Dunking booth
Face painting
Horseshoes
Tailhouse
Spacewalk
Train rides
Volleyball

Entertainment

*Music will be
provided by
"The Gnarly
Brothers."*

Food

*Barbeque chicken and
brisket, baked beans,
potato salad and tea will be
served.*

*Cost: \$10 for officers, \$5
for enlisted members E-5
and above or civilians; no
charge for enlisted mem-
bers E-4 and below
(Price includes immediate
family.)*

Displays and Demos

*Martial Arts Demo
by Tech. Sgt. Mike Mahoney, 93rd Bomb Squadron
Family Support Display
Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Denson Scholarship Fund
Display
First Aid Station/Medical Display*

917th Wing Commander's Cup Golf Tournament

The tournament, scheduled for June 7, is a shotgun start, four-person scramble. Tee-off time is 1 p.m. All golfers must be on their designated holes at that time.

The tournament is at the Fox Run Golf Course, formerly Barksdale AFB Golf Course. Following the tournament, dinner will be served at the clubhouse, with prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd 3rd and last places, longest drive, closest to the pin and most accurate drive.

Cost for E-1 to E-4s is \$28; E-5 to E-7 is \$31; and E-8 and up is \$35. Price includes green fees, cart, food, drinks, and special gifts.

Sign up to play with any of the following committee members: Master Sgt. Greg Steele or Tech. Sgt. Lorne Ward, 917th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (456-8517), Master Sgt. Pete Bretzman, 917th Maintenance Operations Squadron (456-9082), Master Sgt. Ron Harsen, 917th Maintenance Squadron (456-9606), Tech. Sgt. Joel Womack, 47th Fighter Squadron (456-9108), or Master Sgt. Jessica Daurizio, 917th Wing Public Affairs (456-8145).

UTA Schedule

Main

May 17-18
June 7-8
July 12-13
Aug. 2-3
Sept. 6-7
Oct. 4-5
Nov. 1-2
Dec. 6-7

Alternate

May 3-4
June 21-22
July 19-20
Aug. 16-17
Sept. 13-14
Oct. 18-19
Nov. 15-16
No alternate

917th Wing
1000 Davis Ave. East
Barksdale AFB, LA 71110-2287

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Penalty for Private Use \$300

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